

To: Corbin Hiar[chiar@eenews.net]
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2017-05-19T17:10:47-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-19T17:10:56-04:00

Corbin, please send me your editor's number.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Fri, May 19, 2017 at 5:09 PM, Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net> wrote:

Hi, we're planning to run a story in Monday's Greenwire about Secretary Zinke's failure to resign from Continental Divide International LLC, Double Tap LLC, and Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Inc. before assuming office, as he promised to do in his agreement with the Office of Government Ethics. The story explains that his continued involvement with these entities as well as Lolita's role at CDI and access to top decisionmakers open the secretary up to, at the very least, the appearance of conflicts of interest.

Do you have any comment on Zinke's failure to follow through on his OGE agreement? Also, can you explain why Lolita has been allowed to sit in on meetings with the governor of California, a state in which she owns more than \$1 million worth of property, and other closed-door events? How will Interior prevent her or the secretary for violating ethics and conflict of interest laws and policies?

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Please get back to me with a comment by 11 a.m. on Monday. Feel free to give me a call on my cell phone with any questions or concerns you may have about this request. I'm happy to elaborate if needed.

Best, C

Corbin Hiar

Interior Reporter

O: 202 446 0438

M: 718 608 5314

T: @corbinhiar

E&E NEWS

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Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]
From: Corbin Hiar
Sent: 2017-05-19T17:18:28-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-19T17:18:39-04:00

Noelle's cell phone number is (b)(6)

From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2017 5:11 PM
To: Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net>
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From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2017-05-19T17:25:34-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-19T17:25:44-04:00

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Please also send me all of the documents you're working off.

Also, sending a bogus email after 5:00PM on a Friday for a Monday morning deadline absolutely flies in the face of you claiming you're trying to give us time to respond to your inquiries. You didn't just come up with this hit job half an hour ago.

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From: Corbin Hiar
Sent: 2017-05-19T17:34:36-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-19T17:34:51-04:00

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https://www.eenews.net/assets/2017/05/22/document_gw_01.pdf

https://www.eenews.net/assets/2017/05/22/document_gw_02.pdf

https://www.eenews.net/assets/2017/05/22/document_gw_03.pdf

And I really am sorry about the timing of this. As I tried to explain to you and Laura before sending this request – I got voicemail on both of your phones – I was delayed in sending this due to the calendar story Noelle assigned this morning and because I wasn't able to definitively confirm that the secretary hadn't resigned until after 4 p.m. We're also planning to run this faster than usual because we don't want it to get lost in all the budget news that's coming out later in the week.

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From: Corbin Hiar
Sent: 2017-05-19T17:36:25-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: FW: COMPLETED - Request for Information for order 65394 for GREAT NORTHERN VETERANS PEACE PARK FOUNDATION, INC. (D172957)
Received: 2017-05-19T17:36:38-04:00
[Certificate for Request for Information Fulfillment.pdf](#)
[CertificateOfFact.pdf](#)

For the record, here's proof that I was only able to nail this story down about an hour and a half ago.

From: Business Registration [mailto:noreply@mtsosfilings.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2017 4:08 PM
To: Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net>
Subject: COMPLETED - Request for Information for order 65394 for GREAT NORTHERN VETERANS PEACE PARK FOUNDATION, INC. (D172957)

Dear Business Customer,

Business Name: GREAT NORTHERN VETERANS PEACE PARK FOUNDATION, INC.

Your request for information has been processed, and the document(s) are attached to this email.

To view the information, log in to SIMS and go to "My Service Orders" tab and select the appropriate request to view the information.

Please contact the Business Services Division at (406) 444-5522 with any questions you may have.

Best Regards,

Corey Stapleton
Montana Secretary of State
Delivery Id: 359269



MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

Return Method: Email

May 19, 2017

CORBIN HIAR
WASHINGTON DC 20001

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Business Name: GREAT NORTHERN VETERANS PEACE PARK FOUNDATION, INC.

We have processed your request. Thank you for giving this office the opportunity to serve you.

For questions regarding this request please contact the Business Services Division at (406) 444-5522.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Corey Stapleton".

Corey Stapleton
Montana Secretary of State



CERTIFICATE OF FACT

I, COREY STAPLETON, Secretary of State for the State of Montana, do hereby certify the following information for the corporation:

GREAT NORTHERN VETERANS PEACE PARK FOUNDATION, INC.

Date Incorporated: August 15, 2007

Term: Perpetual

Status: Active Good Standing

Jurisdiction: Montana

Purpose: CHARITABLE OR FOUNDATION

Registered Agent: RYAN D PURDY

Agent Physical Address: 341 CENTRAL AVENUE, WHITEFISH, Montana, 59937, United States

Agent Mailing Address: 341 CENTRAL AVENUE, WHITEFISH, Montana, 59937, United States

Principal Office Address: P.O. Box 92, Whitefish, Montana, 59937, United States

Incorporators:

- Not Entered, Not Entered, Helena, Montana 59601, United States

Directors/Officers:

GREAT NORTHERN VETERANS PEACE PARK FOUNDATION, INC.

- Secretary, JENNIFER DETLEFSEN, PO BOX 92, WHITEFISH, Montana 59937, United States
- Director, JOHN S PETERSEN, 415 CENTRAL AVE, WHITEFISH, Montana 59937, United States
- Treasurer, JENNIFER DETLEFSEN, PO BOX 92, WHITEFISH, Montana 59937, United States
- Director, RYAN ZINKE, PO BOX 92, WHITEFISH, Montana 59937, United States
- Director, TIM GRATTAN, 28 FAIRWAY VIEW, WHITEFISH, Montana 59937, United States
- Other Officer, RYAN ZINKE, 409 W 2ND STREET, WHITEFISH, Montana 59937, United States
- President, LOLITA ZINKE, PO BOX 92, WHITEFISH, Montana 59937, United States
- Director, JENNIFER DETLEFSEN, PO BOX 92, WHITEFISH, Montana 59937, United States

History Details:

- Annual Report 2017 Filed 04/14/2017 (Business Address,Principal)
- Confirm Receipt Of Registered Agent Authority Filed 10/14/2016
- Migrated Business Entity Data Filed 08/20/2016
- ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION Filed 08/15/2007
- COMMENT Filed 12/27/2007
- COMMENT Filed 12/27/2007
- REPORT Filed 02/26/2008 (- 2008 E-FILED)
- REPORT Filed 03/13/2009 (- 2009 E-FILED)
- REPORT Filed 03/13/2009 (REGISTERED AGENT ADDRESS)
- REPORT Filed 04/06/2010 (- 2010 E-FILED)
- REPORT Filed 04/14/2011 (- 2011 E-FILED)
- REPORT Filed 04/13/2012 (- 2012 E-FILED)
- REPORT Filed 04/02/2013 (- 2013 E-FILED)
- REPORT Filed 04/08/2014 (- 2014 E-FILED)
- AMENDMENT Filed 11/21/2014
- REPORT Filed 04/07/2015 (- 2015 E-FILED)
- REPORT Filed 04/12/2016 (- 2016 E-FILED)

GREAT NORTHERN VETERANS PEACE PARK FOUNDATION, INC.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of Montana, at Helena, the Capital, this 19th day of May, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Corey Stapleton".

COREY STAPLETON
Montana Secretary of State
Certificate Number: 051920171394

To: Corbin Hiar[chiar@eenews.net]
Cc: Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2017-05-19T17:43:01-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: FW: COMPLETED - Request for Information for order 65394 for GREAT NORTHERN VETERANS PEACE PARK FOUNDATION, INC. (D172957)
Received: 2017-05-19T17:43:08-04:00

You've been working on this over a week, Corbin.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

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Delivery Id: 359269

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From: Corbin Hiar
Sent: 2017-05-19T17:52:40-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: FW: COMPLETED - Request for Information for order 65394 for GREAT NORTHERN VETERANS PEACE PARK FOUNDATION, INC. (D172957)
Received: 2017-05-19T17:52:45-04:00

That's true. I actually mentioned to Laura on Monday that I was looking into Secretary Zinke's companies. But I didn't reach out to Interior for comment on the story until I had documents proving that he was still involved with them, at least in the legal sense.

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Subject: RE: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-22T10:43:37-04:00

While we've agreed to hold the story until tomorrow's Greenwire, we'd appreciate it if you could provide us comment by the end of today or first thing on Tuesday. Thanks for your consideration.

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Subject: Fwd: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-22T12:32:02-04:00
[Zinke, Ryan - Resignation Letters.pdf](#)
[Zinke-Ryan-finalAMENDEDEA.pdf](#)

Meg/Laura/Scott -- The hit piece inquiry from E&E is below. My proposed response is in red. Yes, it's very amped up. Our Deadline is Tomorrow at 11:00AM

(b)(5)

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Ryan K. Zinke

March 6, 2017

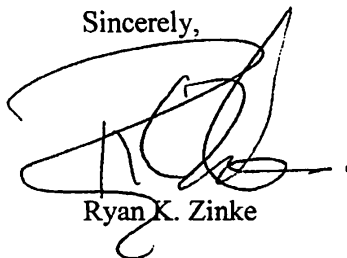
Continental Divide International, LLC
409 W 2nd Street
Whitefish, MT 59937

To Whom It May Concern,

With confirmation by the United States Senate to become Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I am required to resign from all outside positions in which I serve. The purpose of this letter is to convey my resignation, effective immediately, from my management positions with Continental Divide International, LLC; however, I will remain a non-managing member.

During my appointment to the position of Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I will not manage or provide any other services to Continental Divide International, LLC, and I will receive only passive investment income therefrom.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Zinke", with a large, sweeping flourish above it.

Ryan K. Zinke

Ryan K. Zinke

March 6, 2017

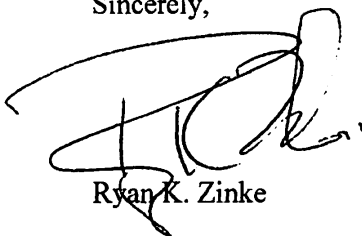
Double Tap, LLC
409 W 2nd Street
Whitefish, MT 59937

To Whom It May Concern,

With confirmation by the United States Senate to become Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I am required to resign from all outside positions in which I serve. The purpose of this letter is to convey my resignation, effective immediately, from my position as a managing member of Double Tap, LLC; however, I will remain a non-managing member.

During my appointment to the position of Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I will not manage or provide any other services to Double Tap, LLC, and I will receive only passive investment income therefrom.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Zinke', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Ryan K. Zinke

Ryan K. Zinke

March 6, 2017

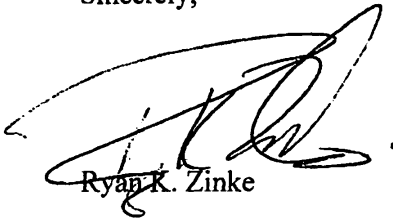
Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation
409 W 2nd Street
Whitefish, MT 59937

To Whom It May Concern,

With confirmation by the United States Senate to become Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I am required to resign from all outside positions in which I serve. The purpose of this letter is to convey my resignation, effective immediately, as President of Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation.

During my appointment to the position of Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I will not manage or provide any other services to Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation.

Sincerely,



Ryan K. Zinke

January 10, 2017

Melinda Loftin
Designated Agency Ethics Official
and Director, Ethics Office
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, MS 7346
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Loftin:

The purpose of this letter is to describe the steps that I will take to avoid any actual or apparent conflict of interest in the event that I am confirmed for the position of Secretary of the Department of Interior.

As required by 18 U.S.C. § 208(a), I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter in which I know that I have a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which I know that a person whose interests are imputed to me has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I understand that the interests of the following persons are imputed to me: any spouse or minor child of mine; any general partner of a partnership in which I am a limited or general partner; any organization in which I serve as officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my position with Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation. For a period of one year after my resignation, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know this entity is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my positions with Continental Divide International, LLC, and become a non-managing member of this entity. During my appointment to the position of Secretary, I will not manage this entity or provide any other services to it. Instead, I will receive only passive investment income from it. As Secretary, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of Continental Divide International, LLC, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my position with Double Tap, LLC, and I will become a non-managing member of this entity. During my appointment, I will not manage this entity or provide any other services to it. Instead, I will receive only passive investment income from it. As Secretary, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter

that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of Double Tap, LLC, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

I receive royalties from Thomas Nelson for sales of my book, *American Commander: Serving a Country Worth Fighting For and Training the Brave Soldiers Who Lead the Way*. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know Thomas Nelson is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

My spouse has

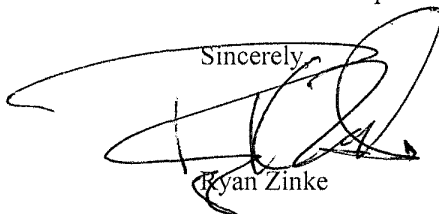
(b)(6)

(b)(6)

If I am confirmed as Secretary of the Department of the Interior, I am aware that I am prohibited by 30 U.S.C. § 1211(f) from holding a financial interest in any surface or underground coal mining operation. Additionally, I am aware that my position is subject to the prohibitions against holding any financial interest in federal lands or resources administered or controlled by the Department of the Interior extended to me by supplemental regulation 5 C.F.R. § 3501.103.

Finally, I have been advised that this ethics agreement will be posted publicly, consistent with 5 U.S.C. § 552, on the website of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics with ethics agreements of other Presidential nominees who file public financial disclosure reports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Zinke", is written over the word "Sincerely,". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

Ryan Zinke

February 2, 2017

Melinda Loftin
Designated Agency Ethics Official
and Director, Ethics Office
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, MS 7346
Washington, DC 20240

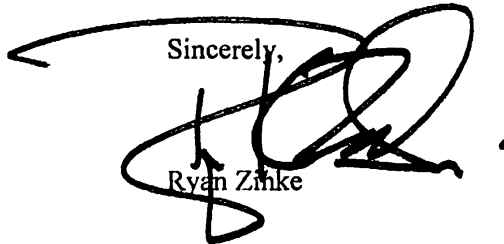
Dear Ms. Loftin:

The purpose of this letter is to supplement my ethics agreement signed on January 10, 2017. The following information supplements my ethics agreement:

I understand that as an appointee I will be required to sign the Ethics Pledge required under the Executive Order dated January 28, 2017 ("Ethics Commitments by Executive Branch Appointees") and that I will be bound by the requirements and restrictions therein in addition to the commitments I made in the ethics agreement I signed on January 10, 2017.

I have been advised that this supplement to my ethics agreement will be posted publicly, consistent with 5 U.S.C. § 552, on the website of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics with ethics agreements of other Presidential nominees who file public financial disclosure reports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Zinke", with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the top left of the signature.

Ryan Zinke

To: Scott Hommel[scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Megan Bloomgren[megan_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2017-05-22T16:28:53-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-22T16:29:00-04:00

Poke.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 12:31 PM, Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Meg/Laura/Scott -- The hit piece inquiry from E&E is below. My proposed response is in red. Yes, it's very amped up. Our Deadline is Tomorrow at 11:00AM

"

(b)(5)

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Corbin Hiar** <chiar@eenews.net>

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Do you have any comment on Zinke's failure to follow through on his OGE agreement? Also, can you explain why Lolita has been allowed to sit in on meetings with the governor of California, a state in which she owns more than \$1 million worth of property, and other closed-door events? How will Interior prevent her or the secretary for violating ethics and conflict of interest laws and policies?

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Please get back to me with a comment by 11 a.m. on Monday. Feel free to give me a call on my cell phone with any questions or concerns you may have about this request. I'm happy to elaborate if needed.

Best, C

Corbin Hiar

Interior Reporter

O: 202 446 0438

M: 718 608 5314

T: @corbinhiar

E&E NEWS

122 C St NW, 7th Fl; Washington, DC, 20001

The leader in energy and environment news

Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire, E&ETV

To: Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Megan Bloomgren[megan_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov]
From: Scott Hommel
Sent: 2017-05-22T17:29:40-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-22T17:29:47-04:00

(b)(5)

Scott C. Hommel
Chief of Staff
Department of the Interior

On May 22, 2017, at 4:28 PM, Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Poke.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

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To: Corbin Hiar[chiar@eenews.net]
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2017-05-23T10:53:54-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-23T10:54:05-04:00

sending you something shortly. getting it cleared by ethics. will take a moment.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 10:43 AM, Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net> wrote:

While we've agreed to hold the story until tomorrow's Greenwire, we'd appreciate it if you could provide us comment by the end of today or first thing on Tuesday. Thanks for your consideration.

Best, C

From: Corbin Hiar
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2017 5:35 PM
To: 'Swift, Heather' <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov; Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: RE: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance

Noelle's cell phone number is (b)(6)

There's a lot of documents. But the most significant ones are Secretary Zinke's [ethics agreement](#) and proof that he hasn't complied with it:

https://www.eenews.net/assets/2017/05/22/document_gw_01.pdf

https://www.eenews.net/assets/2017/05/22/document_gw_02.pdf

https://www.eenews.net/assets/2017/05/22/document_gw_03.pdf

And I really am sorry about the timing of this. As I tried to explain to you and Laura before sending this request – I got voicemail on both of your phones – I was delayed in sending this due to the calendar story Noelle assigned this morning and because I wasn't able to definitively confirm that the secretary hadn't resigned until after 4 p.m. We're also planning to run this faster than usual because we don't want it to get lost in all the budget news that's coming out later in the week.

From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2017 5:26 PM
To: Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net>
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov; Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance

Please send me her cell phone number.

Please also send me all of the documents you're working off.

Also, sending a bogus email after 5:00PM on a Friday for a Monday morning deadline absolutely flies in the face of you claiming you're trying to give us time to respond to your inquiries. You didn't just come up with this hit job half an hour ago.

Furthermore, it's Secretary Zinke and Mrs. Zinke.

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Fri, May 19, 2017 at 5:18 PM, Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net> wrote:

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From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2017 5:11 PM
To: Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net>
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance

Corbin, please send me your editor's number.

-

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Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Fri, May 19, 2017 at 5:09 PM, Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net> wrote:

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Interior Reporter

O: 202 446 0438

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E&E NEWS

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Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]
From: Corbin Hiar
Sent: 2017-05-23T11:00:56-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-23T11:01:12-04:00

Thanks for the update. We'll standby.

From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2017 10:54 AM
To: Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net>
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov; Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance

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Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2017-05-23T11:43:08-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-23T11:43:23-04:00
[Zinke, Ryan - Resignation Letters.pdf](#)
[Zinke-Ryan-finalAMENDEDEA.pdf](#)

"The claims made by E&E are patently false, and as promised, 'upon confirmation' Secretary Zinke resigned as a managing member from the family's two small businesses and a nonprofit organization which he founded to build the Veterans Peace Park, a sledding park for the children of Whitefish, Montana. The Secretary worked with the career veteran ethics officials at the Department every step of the way. He currently has no management role in any of the organizations identified."

Timeline of events:

On January 10, then-Congressman Zinke signed a letter pledging to resign as a managing official from the three entities 'upon confirmation' (which he did). (document attached)

On March 2nd, just an hour after arriving at the Department for the first time, the Secretary met with ethics officials to go over the ethics regulations and laws, including a review of his ethics agreement. This was his first meeting as Secretary.

On March 6th, the ethics officials presented the Secretary with, and he signed, documents executing the resignation (attached).

Regarding Mrs. Zinke: "There was no violation of any government ethics rules. Out of an abundance of caution, Mrs. Zinke received an ethics briefing in early March to avoid even the appearance of a conflict.

On background:

The Executive Branch Stands of Ethical Conduct do not apply to private citizens, including spouses.

(b)(6)

-
Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

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-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Fri, May 19, 2017 at 5:18 PM, Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net> wrote:

Noelle's cell phone number is (b)(6)

From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2017 5:11 PM
To: Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net>
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance

Corbin, please send me your editor's number.

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

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I'd also like to note that the story includes links to previous reporting on Zinke's alleged travel fraud and close ties to the Special Operations for America PAC as well as documents about the history of CDI. That's not something you can really comment on, but I don't want you to be surprised when you see it in the story.

Please get back to me with a comment by 11 a.m. on Monday. Feel free to give me a call on my cell phone with any questions or concerns you may have about this request. I'm happy to elaborate if needed.

Best, C

Corbin Hiar

Interior Reporter

O: 202 446 0438

M: 718 608 5314

T: @corbinhiar

E&E NEWS

122 C St NW, 7th Fl; Washington, DC, 20001

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January 10, 2017

Melinda Loftin
Designated Agency Ethics Official
and Director, Ethics Office
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, MS 7346
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Loftin:

The purpose of this letter is to describe the steps that I will take to avoid any actual or apparent conflict of interest in the event that I am confirmed for the position of Secretary of the Department of Interior.

As required by 18 U.S.C. § 208(a), I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter in which I know that I have a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which I know that a person whose interests are imputed to me has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I understand that the interests of the following persons are imputed to me: any spouse or minor child of mine; any general partner of a partnership in which I am a limited or general partner; any organization in which I serve as officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my position with Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation. For a period of one year after my resignation, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know this entity is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my positions with Continental Divide International, LLC, and become a non-managing member of this entity. During my appointment to the position of Secretary, I will not manage this entity or provide any other services to it. Instead, I will receive only passive investment income from it. As Secretary, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of Continental Divide International, LLC, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my position with Double Tap, LLC, and I will become a non-managing member of this entity. During my appointment, I will not manage this entity or provide any other services to it. Instead, I will receive only passive investment income from it. As Secretary, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter

that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of Double Tap, LLC, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

I receive royalties from Thomas Nelson for sales of my book, *American Commander: Serving a Country Worth Fighting For and Training the Brave Soldiers Who Lead the Way*. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know Thomas Nelson is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

My spouse

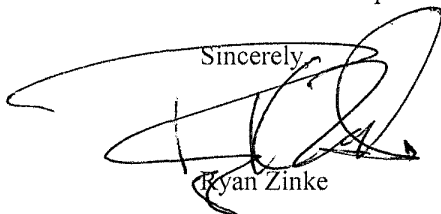
(b)(6)

(b)(6)

If I am confirmed as Secretary of the Department of the Interior, I am aware that I am prohibited by 30 U.S.C. § 1211(f) from holding a financial interest in any surface or underground coal mining operation. Additionally, I am aware that my position is subject to the prohibitions against holding any financial interest in federal lands or resources administered or controlled by the Department of the Interior extended to me by supplemental regulation 5 C.F.R. § 3501.103.

Finally, I have been advised that this ethics agreement will be posted publicly, consistent with 5 U.S.C. § 552, on the website of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics with ethics agreements of other Presidential nominees who file public financial disclosure reports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Zinke', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

Ryan Zinke

February 2, 2017

Melinda Loftin
Designated Agency Ethics Official
and Director, Ethics Office
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, MS 7346
Washington, DC 20240

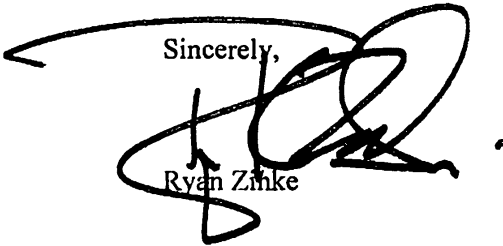
Dear Ms. Loftin:

The purpose of this letter is to supplement my ethics agreement signed on January 10, 2017. The following information supplements my ethics agreement:

I understand that as an appointee I will be required to sign the Ethics Pledge required under the Executive Order dated January 28, 2017 ("Ethics Commitments by Executive Branch Appointees") and that I will be bound by the requirements and restrictions therein in addition to the commitments I made in the ethics agreement I signed on January 10, 2017.

I have been advised that this supplement to my ethics agreement will be posted publicly, consistent with 5 U.S.C. § 552, on the website of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics with ethics agreements of other Presidential nominees who file public financial disclosure reports.

Sincerely,



Ryan Zinke

Ryan K. Zinke

March 6, 2017

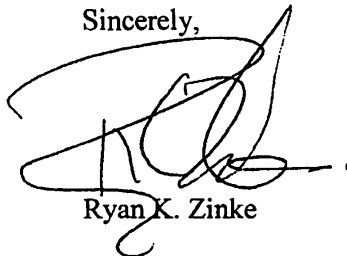
Continental Divide International, LLC
409 W 2nd Street
Whitefish, MT 59937

To Whom It May Concern,

With confirmation by the United States Senate to become Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I am required to resign from all outside positions in which I serve. The purpose of this letter is to convey my resignation, effective immediately, from my management positions with Continental Divide International, LLC; however, I will remain a non-managing member.

During my appointment to the position of Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I will not manage or provide any other services to Continental Divide International, LLC, and I will receive only passive investment income therefrom.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Zinke", with a large, sweeping flourish above it.

Ryan K. Zinke

Ryan K. Zinke

March 6, 2017

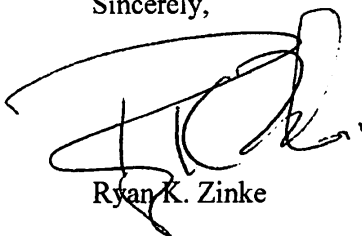
Double Tap, LLC
409 W 2nd Street
Whitefish, MT 59937

To Whom It May Concern,

With confirmation by the United States Senate to become Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I am required to resign from all outside positions in which I serve. The purpose of this letter is to convey my resignation, effective immediately, from my position as a managing member of Double Tap, LLC; however, I will remain a non-managing member.

During my appointment to the position of Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I will not manage or provide any other services to Double Tap, LLC, and I will receive only passive investment income therefrom.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Zinke', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Ryan K. Zinke

Ryan K. Zinke

March 6, 2017

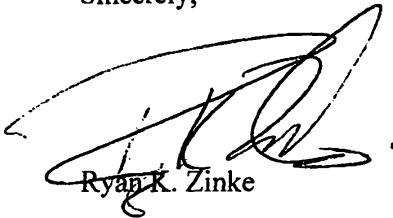
Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation
409 W 2nd Street
Whitefish, MT 59937

To Whom It May Concern,

With confirmation by the United States Senate to become Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I am required to resign from all outside positions in which I serve. The purpose of this letter is to convey my resignation, effective immediately, as President of Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation.

During my appointment to the position of Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, I will not manage or provide any other services to Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation.

Sincerely,



Ryan K. Zinke

To: Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]
From: Corbin Hiar
Sent: 2017-05-25T09:05:01-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-25T09:05:17-04:00

Why did it take Secretary Zinke three days to in office to sign the resignation letters? What happened to the letters after he signed them? Why did the Montana Secretary of State's office not receive them?

Please get back to me by 11 a.m. We plan to run the story today.

From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2017 11:43 AM
To: Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net>
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov; Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance

"The claims made by E&E are patently false, and as promised, 'upon confirmation' Secretary Zinke resigned as a managing member from the family's two small businesses and a nonprofit organization which he founded to build the Veterans Peace Park, a sledding park for the children of Whitefish, Montana. The Secretary worked with the career veteran ethics officials at the Department every step of the way. He currently has no management role in any of the organizations identified."

Timeline of events:

On January 10, then-Congressman Zinke signed a letter pledging to resign as a managing official from the three entities 'upon confirmation' (which he did). (document attached)

On March 2nd, just an hour after arriving at the Department for the first time, the Secretary met with ethics officials to go over the ethics regulations and laws, including a review of his ethics agreement. This was his first meeting as Secretary.

On March 6th, the ethics officials presented the Secretary with, and he signed, documents executing the resignation (attached).

Regarding Mrs. Zinke: "There was no violation of any government ethics rules. Out of an abundance of caution, Mrs. Zinke received an ethics briefing in early March to avoid even the appearance of a conflict.

On background:

The Executive Branch Stands of Ethical Conduct do not apply to private citizens, including spouses.

(b)(6)

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Tue, May 23, 2017 at 11:00 AM, Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net> wrote:
Thanks for the update. We'll standby.

From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2017 10:54 AM
To: Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net>
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov; Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance

sending you something shortly. getting it cleared by ethics. will take a moment.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 10:43 AM, Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net> wrote:
While we've agreed to hold the story until tomorrow's Greenwire, we'd appreciate it if you could provide us comment by the end of today or first thing on Tuesday. Thanks for your consideration.

Best, C

From: Corbin Hiar
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Subject: RE: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance

Noelle's cell phone number is (b)(6)

There's a lot of documents. But the most significant ones are Secretary Zinke's [ethics agreement](#) and proof that he hasn't complied with it:

https://www.eenews.net/assets/2017/05/22/document_gw_01.pdf
https://www.eenews.net/assets/2017/05/22/document_gw_02.pdf
https://www.eenews.net/assets/2017/05/22/document_gw_03.pdf

And I really am sorry about the timing of this. As I tried to explain to you and Laura before sending

this request – I got voicemail on both of your phones – I was delayed in sending this due to the calendar story Noelle assigned this morning and because I wasn't able to definitively confirm that the secretary hadn't resigned until after 4 p.m. We're also planning to run this faster than usual because we don't want it to get lost in all the budget news that's coming out later in the week.

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Interior Reporter

O: 202 446 0438

M: 718 608 5314

T: @corbinhiar

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Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2017-05-25T10:13:06-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance
Received: 2017-05-25T10:13:14-04:00

Corbin, The Secretary fulfilled his commitment and requirement to resign as a managing official. I'll remind you of the timeline. The Secretary's very first meeting was with the ethics office to resign as a managing official from the three entities. The ethics office then prepared the paperwork and presented it to him as soon as it was available, which was two business days later. Preparing and executing legal documents is a process, which in this case, was done as thoroughly and as expeditiously as possible. The documents were mailed to the attorney of the boards, who confirmed receipt, fulfilling the Secretary's requirement.

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Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Thu, May 25, 2017 at 9:05 AM, Corbin Hiar <chiar@eenews.net> wrote:

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(b)(6)

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Department of the Interior

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Subject: Re: Request for comment on Secretary Zinke's ethics compliance

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Department of the Interior

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Best, C

Corbin Hiar

Interior Reporter

O: 202 446 0438

M: 718 608 5314

T: @corbinhiar

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122 C St NW, 7th Fl; Washington, DC, 20001

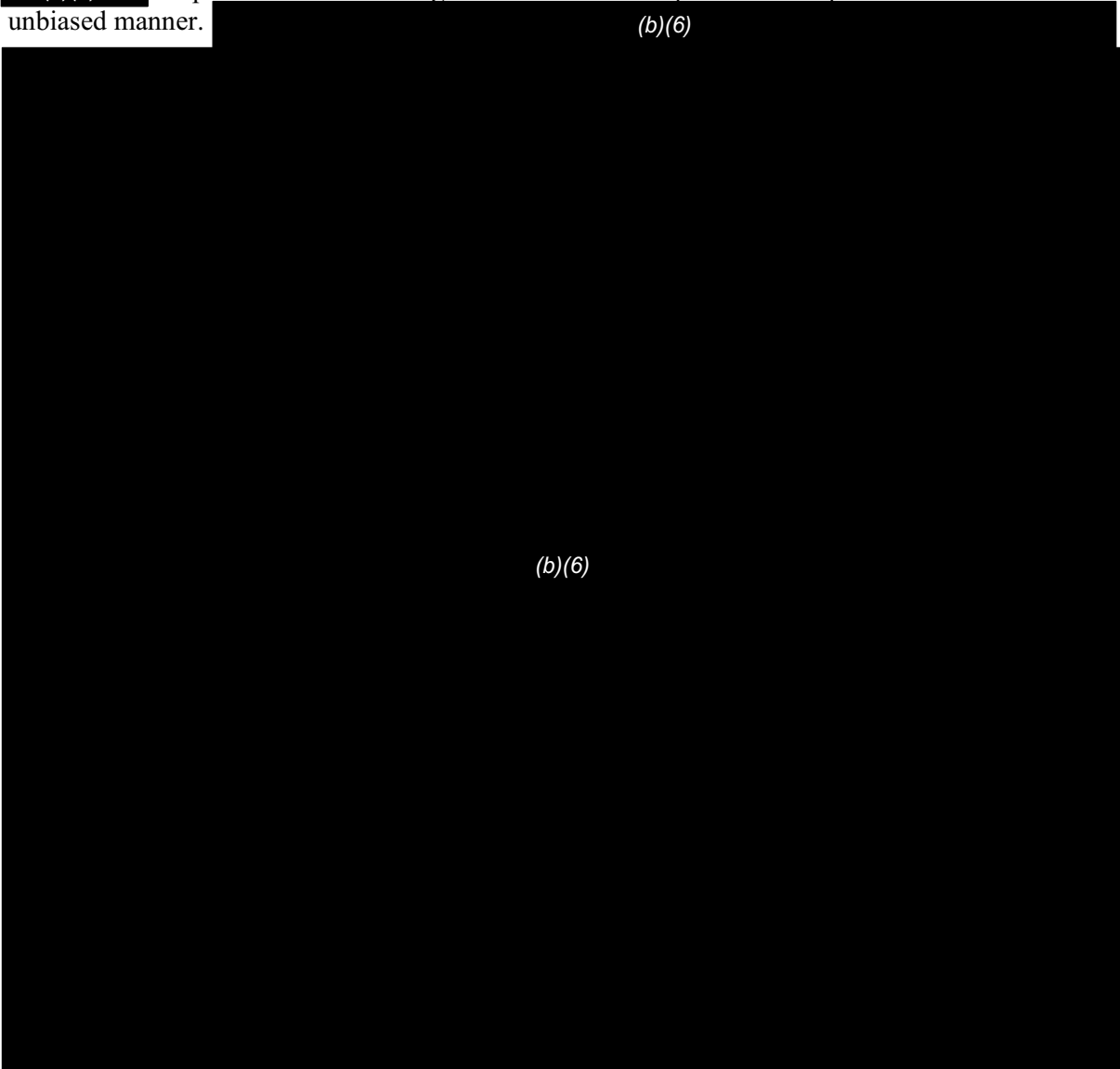
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Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire, E&ETV

To: mwitt@eenews.net[mwitt@eenews.net]; Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2017-06-07T14:42:43-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Interior Department and EE
Received: 2017-06-07T14:42:50-04:00

Hi there, Michael. Thank you for taking my call earlier today. The Department has dozens if not over a hundred subscriptions to E&E so it's no secret that we value your coverage of our issues. As such, the Department and E&E enjoy a positive and productive working relationship with every reporter on your staff with the exception of one.

(b)(6) has proven to be unwilling to work with the Department in a professional and unbiased manner. (b)(6)



(b)(6)

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please reply all, I've CCed my boss, Laura Rigas,

DOI Communications Director.

Heather Swift
Press Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
c: 202-897-7111
d: 202-208-5338

EXAMPLE 1:

(b)(6)



(b)(6)

(b)(6)

EXAMPLE 2:

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

EXAMPLE 3:

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

To: Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Michael Witt
Sent: 2017-06-07T15:57:09-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Interior Department and EE
Received: 2017-06-07T15:57:21-04:00

Heather –

Thanks for sending this. I have briefed my partner and editor-in-chief Kevin Braun and the Greenwire editor, Cy Zaneski on our call and have forwarded your email to them.

You will hear back from Cy today – unclear exactly what time as he's juggling his afternoon deadline but you will hear from him.

I appreciate the straight-forward manner of your presentation. It has prompted a serious conversation here and I expect you will have a substantive and respectful conversation.

Let me know if you are not satisfied with the follow-up,

Michael Witt
Publisher
E&E News

mwitt@eenews.net
202-446-0422 (office)
301-717-7062

E&E NEWS
122 C Street NW 7th Floor Washington, DC 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates | 202-628-6500
Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, E&E TV

From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 7, 2017 2:43 PM
To: Michael Witt; Laura Rigas
Subject: Interior Department and EE

Hi there, Michael. Thank you for taking my call earlier today. The Department has dozens if not over a hundred subscriptions to E&E so it's no secret that we value your coverage of our issues. As such, the Department and E&E enjoy a positive and productive working relationship with every reporter on your staff with the exception of one.

(b)(6) has proven to be unwilling to work with the Department in a professional and unbiased manner. (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please reply all, I've CCed my boss, Laura Rigas, DOI Communications Director.

Heather Swift
Press Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
c: 202-897-7111
d: 202-208-5338

EXAMPLE 1:

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EXAMPLE 2:

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EXAMPLE 3:

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-
Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

To: Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2017-06-07T16:00:03-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Interior Department and EE
Received: 2017-06-07T16:00:11-04:00

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Witt** <michael@eenews.net>
Date: Wed, Jun 7, 2017 at 3:57 PM
Subject: RE: Interior Department and EE
To: "Swift, Heather" <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>

Heather –

Thanks for sending this. I have briefed my partner and editor-in-chief Kevin Braun and the Greenwire editor, Cy Zaneski on our call and have forwarded your email to them.

You will hear back from Cy today – unclear exactly what time as he's juggling his afternoon deadline but you will hear from him.

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From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]

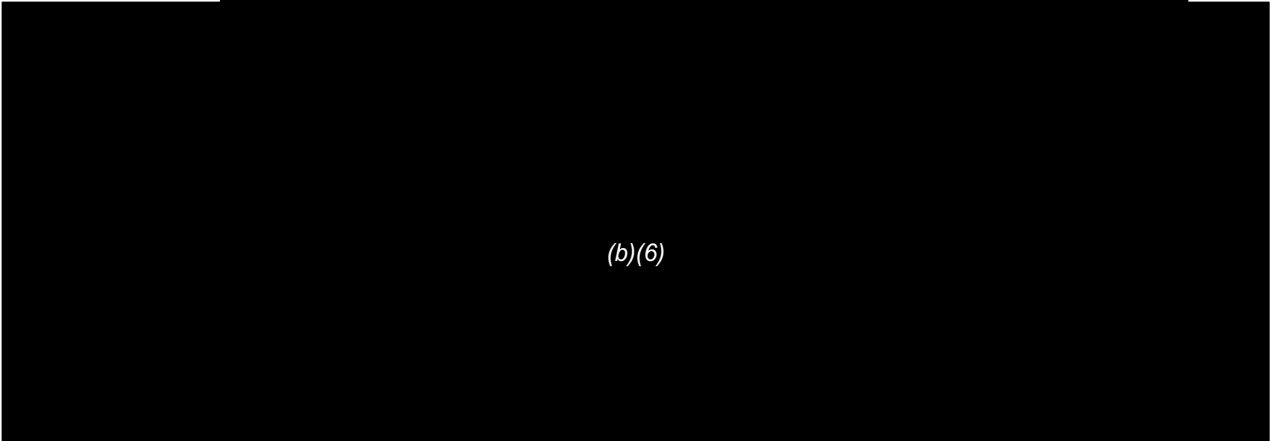
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U.S. Department of the Interior

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-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

To: Michael Witt[michael@eenews.net]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2017-06-07T16:03:43-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Interior Department and EE
Received: 2017-06-07T16:03:50-04:00

Thank you, Michael. Your willingness to hear me out and your concern for the matter gives me hope E&E and DOI can get back on good footing.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

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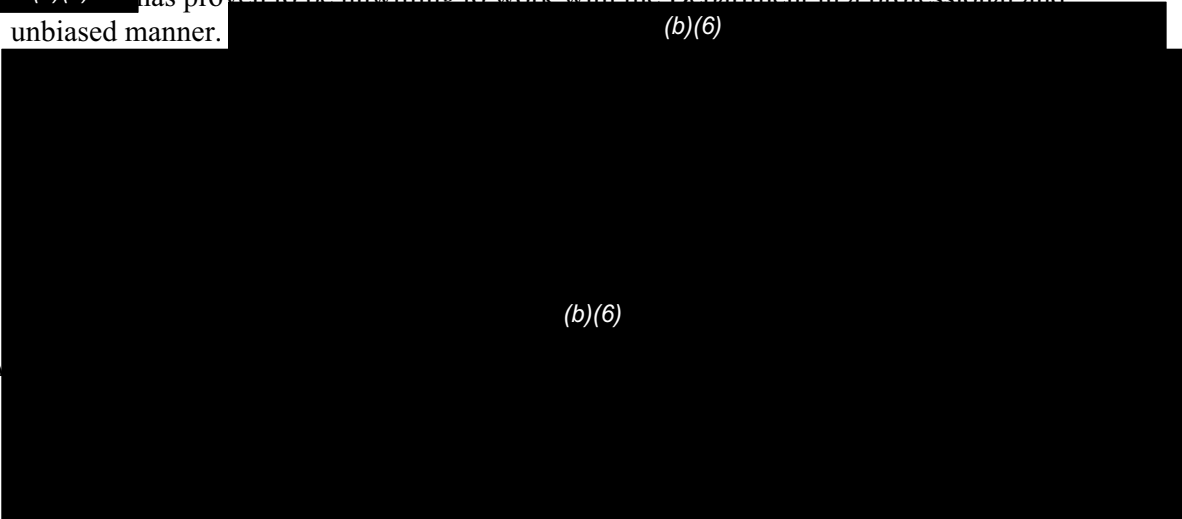
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Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

To: Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Michael Witt
Sent: 2017-06-07T16:10:34-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Interior Department and EE
Received: 2017-06-07T16:11:42-04:00

Certainly my goal – I appreciate you reaching out.

From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 7, 2017 4:04 PM
To: Michael Witt
Subject: Re: Interior Department and EE

Thank you, Michael. Your willingness to hear me out and your concern for the matter gives me hope E&E and DOI can get back on good footing.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

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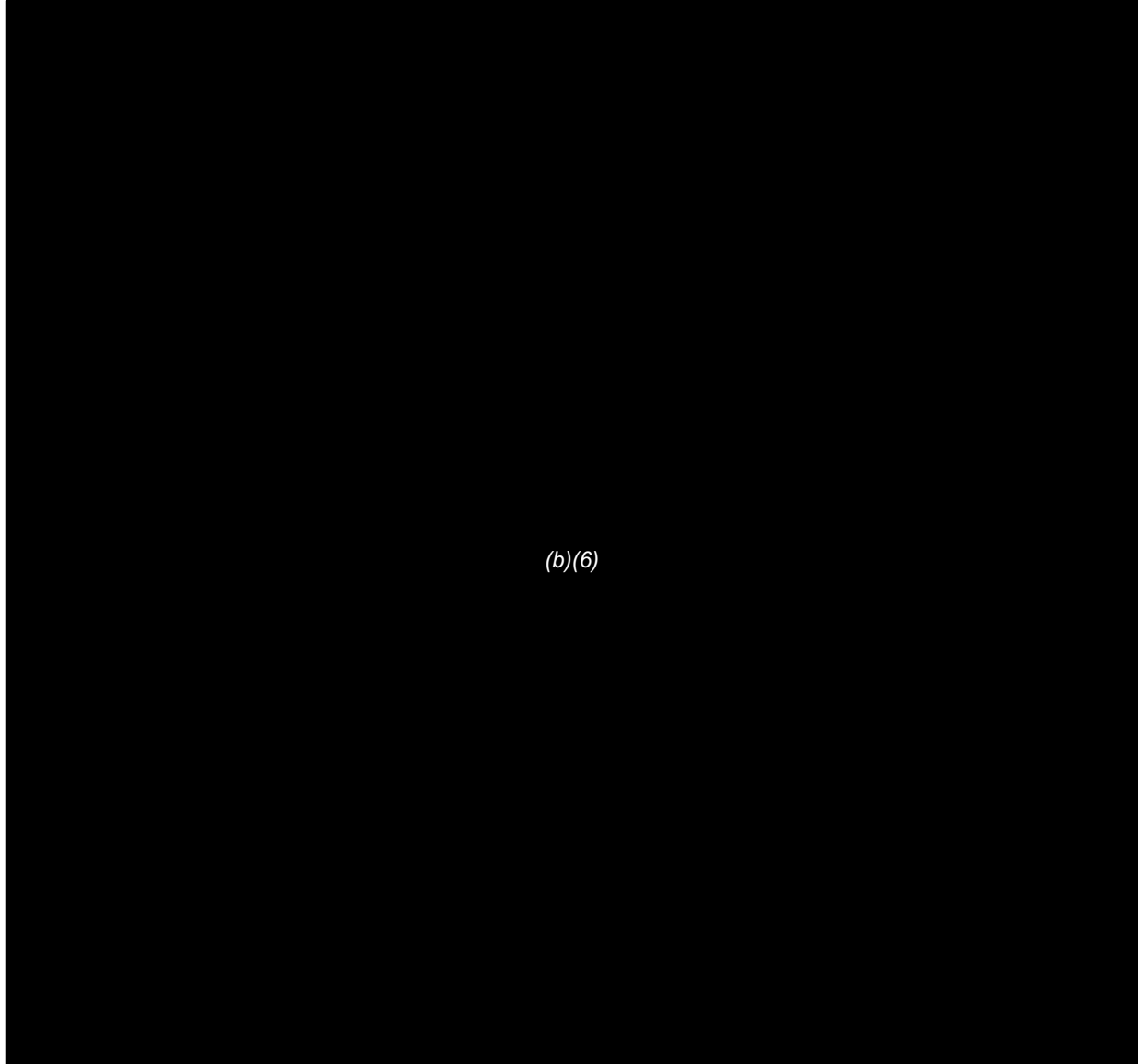
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-
Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

To: Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Michael Doyle
Sent: 2018-06-19T10:16:19-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] following up on foundation
Received: 2018-06-19T10:16:44-04:00

Good morning:

I'll be following up for today's Greenwire, focusing on the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park **Foundation, so could use statement as to:**

What is the secretary's role with the foundation, which lists him as director?
What is the secretary's hope for the donated parcel?

Thanks.

Mike

Michael Doyle
Reporter
mdoyle@eenews.net
202-446-0467 x467
@MichaelDoyle10

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

To: Michael Doyle[mdoyle@eenews.net]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2018-06-19T10:18:15-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] following up on foundation
Received: 2018-06-19T10:19:01-04:00

I'm trying to get in touch with the MT SOS office.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Tue, Jun 19, 2018 at 10:16 AM, Michael Doyle <mdoyle@eenews.net> wrote:

Good morning:

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Michael Doyle

Reporter

mdoyle@eenews.net

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To: Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Michael Doyle
Sent: 2018-06-19T10:34:29-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] here's recent SOS report
Received: 2018-06-19T10:34:42-04:00
[zinkefound.pdf](#)

Michael Doyle
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STATE OF MONTANA

11573871

Montana Secretary of State
 Filed: April 25, 2018 11:30 AM
 BID: D172957

Annual Report 2018

GREAT NORTHERN VETERANS PEACE PARK FOUNDATION, INC. (D172957)

Annual Report Year 2018

Handling Option

Standard Processing

Corporate Type

Public Benefit Corporation with members

State of Incorporation

Montana

Registered Agent in Montana

Name

RYAN D PURDY

Street Address

530 West 19th Street, Suite 301, WHITEFISH,
 Montana, 59937, United States

Previous Value

~~341 CENTRAL AVENUE, WHITEFISH, MT, 59937,
 United States~~

Mailing Address

Same as Street Address

Registered Agent Type

Non-Commercial

Business Mailing Address of Principal Office

Current Address

Postal Address

P.O. Box 92, Whitefish, Montana, 59937, United
 States

Purpose

CHARITABLE OR FOUNDATION

Directors/Officers

Name	JENNIFER DETLEFSEN
Status	Active
Business Mailing Address	PO BOX 92, WHITEFISH, Montana, 59937, United States
Position	Director

Name	JENNIFER DETLEFSEN
Status	Active
Business Mailing Address	PO BOX 92, WHITEFISH, Montana, 59937, United States
Position	Treasurer

Name	JENNIFER DETLEFSEN
Status	Active
Business Mailing Address	PO BOX 92, WHITEFISH, Montana, 59937, United States
Position	Secretary

Name	TIM GRATTAN
Status	Active
Business Mailing Address	28 FAIRWAY VIEW, WHITEFISH, Montana, 59937, United States
Position	Director

Name	JOHN S PETERSEN
Status	Active
Business Mailing Address	415 CENTRAL AVE, WHITEFISH, Montana, 59937, United States
Position	Director

Name	LOLITA ZINKE
Status	Active
Business Mailing Address	PO BOX 92, WHITEFISH, Montana, 59937, United States
Position	President

Name	RYAN ZINKE
Status	Active
Business Mailing Address	PO BOX 92, WHITEFISH, Montana, 59937, United States
Position	Director

Name	RYAN ZINKE
Status	Active
Business Mailing Address	409 W 2ND STREET, WHITEFISH, Montana, 59937, United States
Position	Other Officer

Signature

I have been authorized by the business entity to file this document online.
Yes

I, HEREBY SWEAR AND/OR AFFIRM, under penalty of law, including criminal prosecution, that the facts contained in this document are true. I certify that I am signing this document as the person(s) whose signature is required, or as an agent of the person(s) whose signature is required, who has authorized me to place his/her signature on this document.
Yes

Name	Ryan Purdy
Position	Attorney in Fact
Date	04/25/2018
On Behalf Of	Great Northern Veterans Peace Park

Daytime Contact

Phone

406-8629611

Email

sherri@framptonpurdy.com

To: Michael Doyle[mdoyle@eenews.net]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2018-06-19T14:27:23-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] here's recent SOS report
Received: 2018-06-19T14:28:12-04:00
[6-19-18 ltr re GNVPPF.PDF](#)
[6-19-18 ltr re GNVPPF.PDF](#)
[Amended Annual Report-11685209.pdf](#)

The Politico accusations that the secretary is still a member of the board are false. In accordance with all federal ethics guidelines, the secretary resigned from his position with the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park in March 2017. (see attached)

Additionally, please see the attached letter from Frampton Purdy Law Firm confirming the secretary's 2017 resignation from all positions with the GNVPP.

Lastly, please see the updated Montana SOS PDF that shows the Secretary is not a board member.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Tue, Jun 19, 2018 at 10:34 AM, Michael Doyle <mdoyle@eenews.net> wrote:

Michael Doyle

Reporter

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202-446-0467 x467

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FRAMPTON PURDY LAW FIRM

530 WEST 19TH STREET
WHITEFISH, MONTANA 59937
TELEPHONE (406) 862-9600
FACSIMILE (406) 862-9611

SEAN S. FRAMPTON
LAURA J. WEBB

RYAN D. PURDY
DOUGLAS SCOTTI

June 19, 2018

VIA EMAIL TO

(b)(6)

Heather Swift

RE: Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation, Inc. / Ryan Zinke

Dear Ms. Swift:

I represent Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation, Inc. I hereby confirm that Ryan Zinke resigned as an officer and director of this company in 2017. Annual reports for the State of Montana are renewed electronically and our office renews several hundred annual reports each year, including this company's annual report. In April 2018, GNVPPF, Inc.'s annual report was renewed but Mr. Zinke was inadvertently not removed as a Director. My office has corrected this oversight today and the public record now accurately reflects the board composition. I apologize for any confusion.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "S. Frampton", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sean S. Frampton
Frampton Purdy Law Firm

SSF/kk



FRAMPTON PURDY LAW FIRM

530 WEST 19TH STREET
WHITEFISH, MONTANA 59937
TELEPHONE (406) 862-9600
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Frampton Purdy Law Firm

SSF/kk



STATE OF MONTANA

11685209
Montana Secretary of State
Filed: June 19, 2018 11:44 AM
BID: D172957

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Position	Other Officer

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Yes

Name	Ryan Purdy
Position	Authorized Agent
Date	06/19/2018

Daytime Contact

Phone	(1) 406-862-9600
Email	sherri@framptonpurdy.com

To: Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Michael Doyle
Sent: 2018-06-19T14:30:01-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] here's recent SOS report
Received: 2018-06-19T14:30:12-04:00

Thanks, will update

From: Swift, Heather [mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 2:27 PM
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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

To: Heather Swift[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]
From: Grandoni, Dino
Sent: 2018-06-21T17:14:56-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Inquiry from WaPo about meeting with David Lesar
Received: 2018-06-21T17:15:10-04:00

Hi Heather,

Happy Summer Solstice -- hope all is well today. We're writing in because we're working on a story about Secretary Zinke meeting with Halliburton CEO David Lesar, his son John Lesar and Casey Malmquist on the evening of August 3, 2017.

It is our understanding that:

- Malmquist and the Lesars met with Zinke in his office at 4 pm.
- The secretary then gave Malmquist and the Lesars a tour of the Lincoln Memorial at 6 pm.
- And that the four of them then got dinner at Biergarten Haus afterward.

Can you confirm this? Also, can you tell us what the purpose of the meeting was?
Thanks in advance for fielding these questions.

All the best,
Dino

(b)(6)

To: Heather Swift[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]
From: Grandoni, Dino
Sent: 2018-06-21T17:14:56-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Inquiry from WaPo about meeting with David Lesar
Received: 2018-06-21T17:15:07-04:00

Hi Heather,

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All the best,
Dino

(b)(6)

To: Grandoni, Dino[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com]
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2018-06-21T17:47:04-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Inquiry from WaPo about meeting with David Lesar
Received: 2018-06-21T17:47:49-04:00

Huzzah! Summer Solstice! I hope others are able to get out and enjoy it! I won't be able to get you an answer on any of this until tomorrow.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Thu, Jun 21, 2018 at 5:14 PM, Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com> wrote:

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- And that the four of them then got dinner at Biergarten Haus afterward.

Can you confirm this? Also, can you tell us what the purpose of the meeting was?
Thanks in advance for fielding these questions.

All the best,
Dino

(b)(6)

To: Magallanes, Downey[downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Hommel[scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2018-06-21T17:47:16-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Inquiry from WaPo about meeting with David Lesar
Received: 2018-06-21T17:48:03-04:00

FYI

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>
Date: Thu, Jun 21, 2018 at 5:14 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Inquiry from WaPo about meeting with David Lesar
To: Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov" <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>, "Eilperin, Juliet" <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>

Hi Heather,

Happy Summer Solstice -- hope all is well today. We're writing in because we're working on a story about Secretary Zinke meeting with Halliburton CEO David Lesar, his son John Lesar and Casey Malmquist on the evening of August 3, 2017.

It is our understanding that:

- Malmquist and the Lesars met with Zinke in his office at 4 pm.
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(b)(6)

To: Heather Swift[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]
From: Jennifer Yachnin
Sent: 2018-06-21T17:56:58-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Grijalva letter
Received: 2018-06-21T17:57:06-04:00

Hi - As you may have seen, Rep. Grijalva today asked the DOI OIG to look into Sec. Zinke's involvement in 95 Karrow and his "potential conflicts of interest and whether they have been handled in accordance with the law." Any comment on the investigation request? Link to letter below. Thanks - Jennifer

<http://democrats-naturalresources.house.gov/download/grijalva-huffman-mceachin-ig-request-on-zinke-ties-to-halliburton-june-21-2018>

303.355.2979 office
202.907.9649 mobile

To: Heather Swift[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]
From: Jennifer Yachnin
Sent: 2018-06-21T17:56:58-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Grijalva letter
Received: 2018-06-21T17:57:23-04:00

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303.355.2979 office
202.907.9649 mobile

To: Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]
From: Grandoni, Dino
Sent: 2018-06-21T19:10:26-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Inquiry from WaPo about meeting with David Lesar
Received: 2018-06-21T19:10:40-04:00

Hope you're able to enjoy the long evening too! Looking forward to your response.

From: Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2018 5:47:04 PM
To: Grandoni, Dino
Cc: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov; Eilperin, Juliet
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Inquiry from WaPo about meeting with David Lesar

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Huzzah! Summer Solstice! I hope others are able to get out and enjoy it! I won't be able to get you an answer on any of this until tomorrow.

-

Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

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Dino

(b)(6)

To: heather_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Center for Western Priorities
Sent: 2018-07-05T17:52:01-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MEMO: New EPA head lobbied to gut Bears Ears, Zinke now most scandal-plagued cabinet member
Received: 2018-07-05T17:52:07-04:00

[View this email in your browser](#)

To: Interested Parties

From: Jesse Prentice-Dunn, Center for Western Priorities:

Re: Andrew Wheeler lobbied DOI to gut Bears Ears NM, Zinke now most scandal-plagued cabinet member remaining

The [resignation of EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt](#) leaves Deputy Administrator Andrew Wheeler in charge of the agency. While Wheeler is most notable for being a lobbyist for coal companies, he also has a track record of lobbying to reduce protections for public lands in the name of expanded uranium mining. Wheeler joins a scandal-plagued cabinet led by investigation-prone Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke.

As a lobbyist for Energy Fuels Resources, Andrew Wheeler asked the Interior Department to [gut Bears Ears National Monument](#) to allow for more uranium mining.

- Last year Wheeler [served as a lobbyist](#) for Energy Fuels Resources (EFR), a company operating uranium mines and mills just outside of Bears Ears National Monument in Utah.
- On [July 17th, 2017](#), Andrew Wheeler and Paul Goranson, an executive at Energy Fuels Resources, met with high-level officials in the Interior Department, including Downey Magallanes, the architect of Secretary Zinke's national monuments report, to "discuss the Bear Ears *[sic]* National Monument."
- Two days later, on July 19th, 2017, Andrew Wheeler met with Vincent DeVito ([see page 123](#)). DeVito is Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's Counselor for Energy Policy.
- In [a letter to Secretary Zinke](#), EFR made clear their desires, stating:
 - "There are also many other known uranium and vanadium deposits located within the newly created BENM that could provide valuable energy and mineral resources in the future."
 - "EFR respectfully requests that DOI reduce the size of the BENM to only those specific areas or sites, if any, deemed to need additional protection beyond what is already available to Federal land management agencies."

With Scott Pruitt's resignation, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke is now the most scandal-plagued cabinet member remaining.

- During his tenure, Scott Pruitt racked up an astonishing [19 federal investigations](#). Secretary Zinke is now racing to top that number, already [facing 13 investigations of his own](#).
- Secretary Zinke is currently [under investigation](#) over his role in a Whitefish, MT [real estate deal](#), backed by the chairman of Halliburton, in which the secretary stands to personally benefit. Five months after claiming to have cut ties with the project, Zinke [met with David Lesar, the chairman of Halliburton and the project developer](#) in his official office for 90 minutes, then gave them a private tour of the Lincoln Memorial.
- Zinke has also [faced investigations](#) over his use of chartered aircraft, suppressing science within his agency, violating the Hatch Act, and unjustified reassignment of senior staff, to name a few.

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Center for Western Priorities
820 16th Street
Suite 450
Denver, CO 80202

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To: heather_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Center for Western Priorities
Sent: 2018-10-18T18:33:17-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] STATEMENT on Interior Inspector General's Report on Ryan and Lola Zinke's use of Government Vehicles
Received: 2018-10-18T18:35:33-04:00

[REDACTED]

Aaron Weiss, Media Director
Center for Western Priorities
aaron@westernpriorities.org
720-279-0019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 2018

STATEMENT on Interior Inspector General's Report on Ryan and Lola Zinke's misuse of taxpayer dollars

Updated analysis: Zinke is the subject of 18 open, closed, or requested investigations into his conduct

DENVER—In response to today's reporting by *The Washington Post* on a report from the Interior Department Inspector General into improper use of government vehicles by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and his wife Lola, the Center for Western Priorities released the following statement from **Executive Director Jen Rokala**:

"This report shows Secretary Zinke's dogged determination to use his office for personal gain, even going so far as to tell Interior's top lawyer to lie to the public to justify his wife's travel. Taxpayers paid \$25,000 to send a security detail along on a two-week romantic getaway. He booked a taxpayer-funded cruise to California's Channel Islands, then claimed his friends and donors were 'stakeholders' so they could get a free ride. Secretary Zinke owes the American people an apology — and a refund."

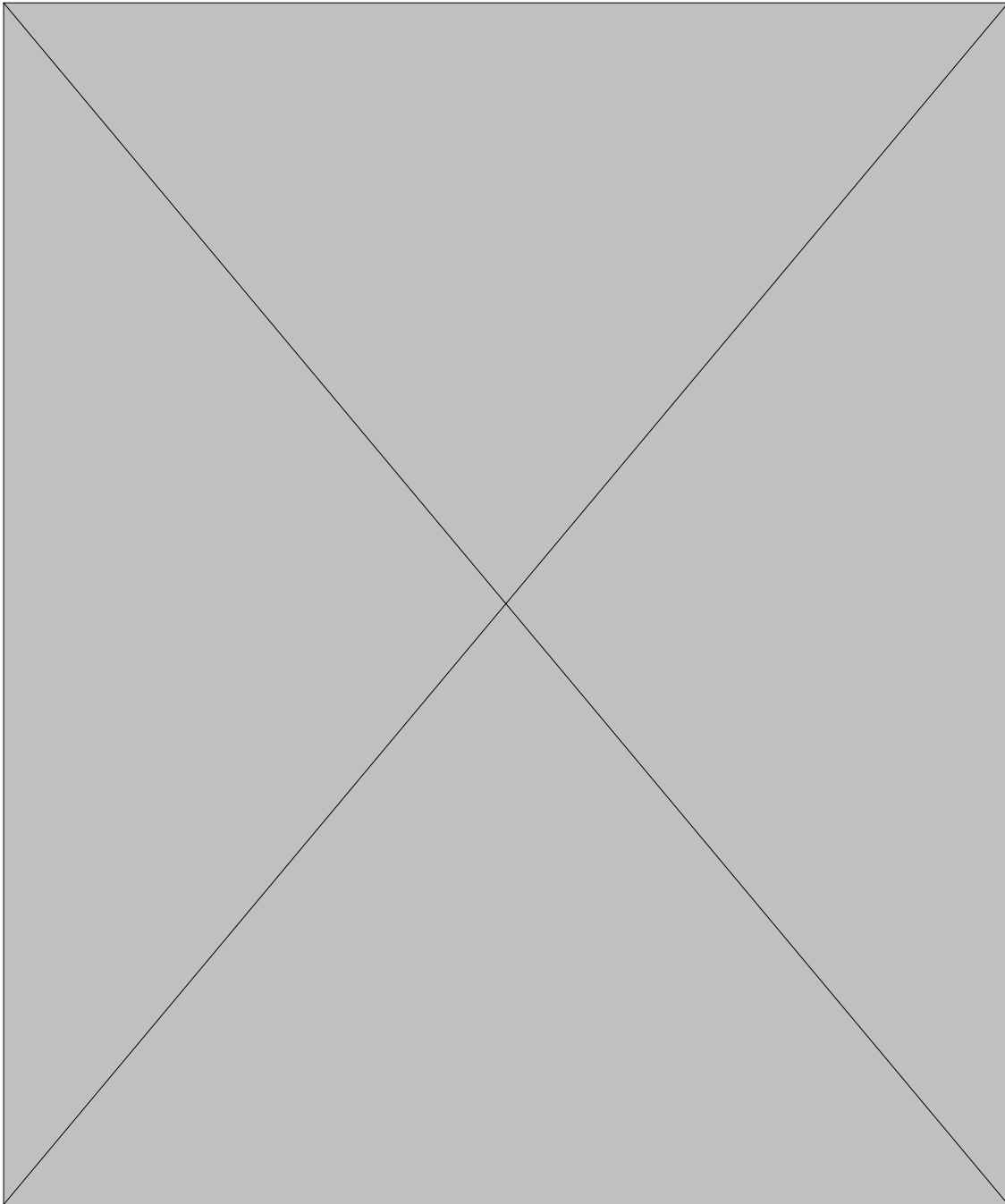
The report also quotes an ethics official who says Secretary Zinke told Acting Solicitor Daniel Jorjani to lie to reporters about his wife's presence on official trips, falsely claiming she was an ombudsman for the department. Staff also raised concerns about how much time was being spent to justify Mrs. Zinke's presence on official trips.

"We're spending taxpayer dollars trying to figure out if she can be a volunteer so that he [Zinke]

doesn't have to pay [reimbursement for her riding in Government vehicles]," Interior ethics official Ed McDonnell said.

The OIG also determined that Zinke spent more than \$13,000 in taxpayer money on challenge coins bearing his name and title.

The Center for Western Priorities today updated its ongoing count of investigations into Secretary Zinke, finding eighteen investigations by the Office of Inspector General and the Office of Special Counsel that have been opened or requested by members of Congress. With today's report, nine of those investigations have been closed and at least five remain open, including the investigation into Secretary Zinke's discussions with the chairman of Halliburton about a land deal in Zinke's hometown of Whitefish, Montana.



Zinke's investigation count now far exceeds his last four predecessors, who collectively were the subject of eleven OIG and OSC investigations. Earlier this week, the Trump administration moved to replace the Acting Interior Inspector General with a political appointee, despite Zinke

being the subject of at least three open investigations at the OIG's office. Late this afternoon, the Interior Department clumsily attempted to walk back the reassignment. **Rokala added:**

"During his confirmation hearing, Ryan Zinke promised 'the most transparent Interior' in his lifetime. Now we know he meant to say 'the most transparently unethical.'"

LEARN MORE

- Zinke interviewed qualified candidates for Inspector General before choosing political operative [[E&E News](#)]
- Interior watchdog opens probe of land deal linking Zinke, Halliburton chairman [[Politico](#)]
- Watchdog slams Zinke for failing to document travel [[Politico](#)]
- Latest Zinke calendars stripped of most details about his meetings [[CNN](#)]
- Documents reveal Zinke uses a private email address for official business [[Westwise](#)]

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###

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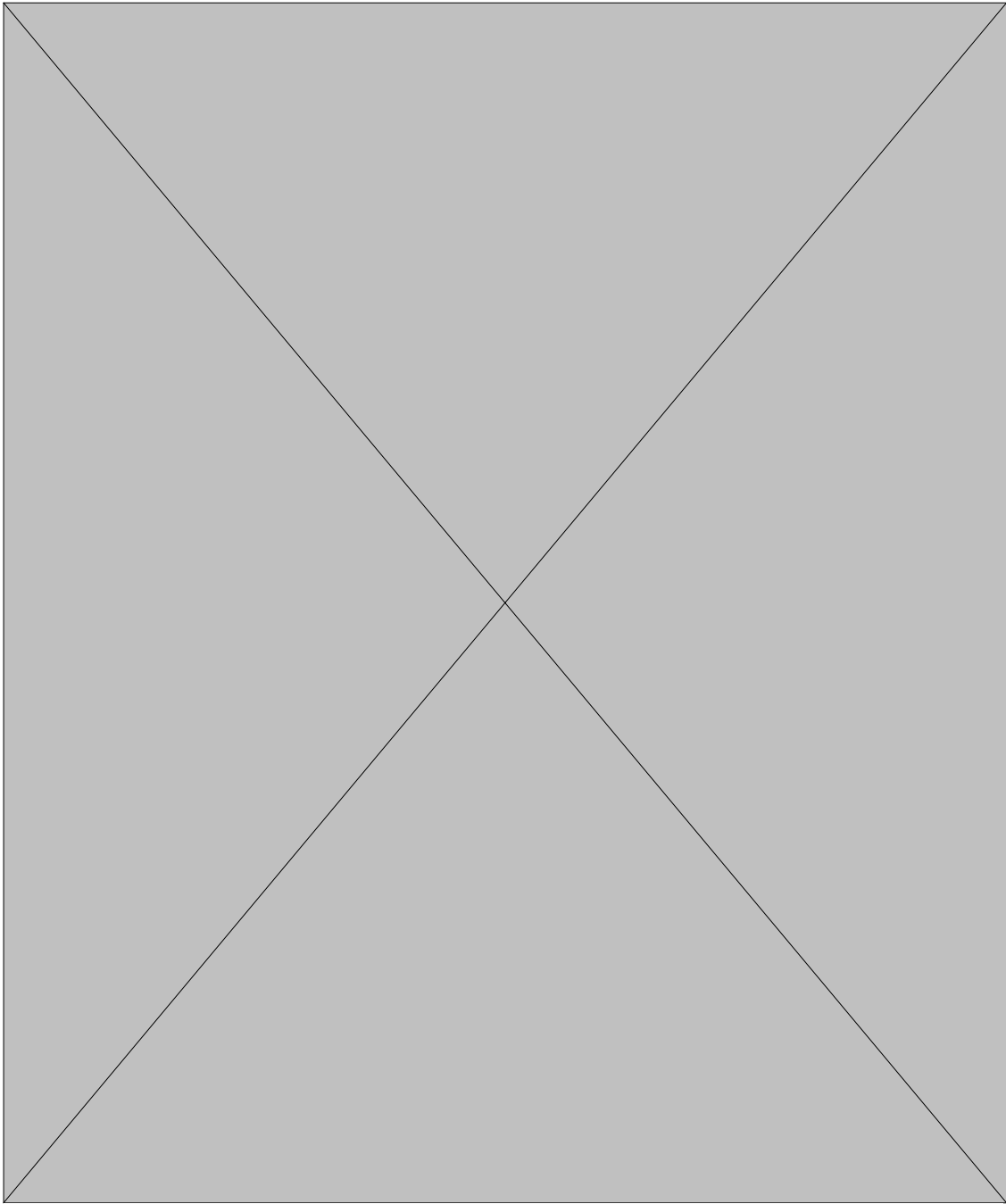
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To: heather_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Center for Western Priorities
Sent: 2018-10-30T14:57:25-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: STATEMENT on investigation into Secretary Zinke being referred to Department of Justice
Received: 2018-10-30T14:57:36-04:00

[REDACTED]

Aaron Weiss, Media Director
Center for Western Priorities
aaron@westernpriorities.org
720-279-0019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 30, 2018

STATEMENT on investigation into Secretary Zinke being referred to Department of Justice

*Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke is facing at least six open investigations into
his conduct*

DENVER—In response to today's [reporting by The Washington Post](#) that the Department of the Interior's Office of Inspector General referred an investigation into Secretary Ryan Zinke to the Department of Justice, the Center for Western Priorities released the following statement from **Executive Director Jennifer Rokala**:

"Since stepping into his role as interior secretary, Ryan Zinke has repeatedly leveraged his office for personal gain, attracting unprecedented scrutiny from government investigators. We are glad to see Interior's Inspector General take these matters seriously and refer the investigation into the secretary's conduct to the Department of Justice.

"The timing of Secretary Zinke's attempt to remove Interior's acting Inspector General and replace her with a political appointee earlier this month raises serious questions about whether the secretary was trying to dodge scrutiny. If Interior's Inspector General is unable to hold Secretary Zinke accountable without political interference, it's time for career prosecutors at the Justice Department to take over."

Secretary Zinke is [facing at least six investigations](#) into his conduct, the most serious of which involves a land deal with the chairman of Halliburton.

Learn More

[Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's conduct attracts unprecedented scrutiny from government investigators](#) [Westwise]

[Interior IG to scrutinize Zinke's beer-making plans](#) [Politico]

[HUD political appointee to replace Interior Department inspector general](#) [The Hill]

[Watchdog groups raise alarm about transfer of HUD official to inspector general at Interior](#) [Washington Times]

[Trump appointee tapped days ago to run Interior Department's watchdog office resigns amid controversy](#) [Washington Post]

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From: Center for Western Priorities
Sent: 2018-10-30T14:57:25-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] STATEMENT on investigation into Secretary Zinke being referred to Department of Justice
Received: 2018-10-30T14:57:47-04:00

[REDACTED]

Aaron Weiss, Media Director
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aaron@westernpriorities.org
720-279-0019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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To: Heather Swift[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Heather swift[REDACTED] (b)(6)
From: Eilperin, Juliet
Sent: 2018-11-01T16:34:40-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: following up on our discussion
Received: 2018-11-01T16:34:53-04:00

Dear Heather,

Having looked into some of the issues we discussed earlier today, I just wanted to report back what we've determined.

1. The Vice President's office says that the VP has not invited Secretary Zinke on a trip.
2. Interior's Acting IG does not have a sister, period. No member of her family has been involved with the 95 Karrow developer, and issues have arisen that have prompted her to recuse herself from a probe involving the Secretary.
3. IGs typically refer issues to the Justice Department soon after they identify anything that could be a potential criminal violation. They then continue their inquiry, while conferring with DOJ.
4. I spoke with Dave Taylor, who emphasized that Secretary Zinke's involvement in 95 Karrow was limited to the agreement concerning the foundation's land, which is what we had reported previously.

So I think that covers most of what we discussed. If you would like to comment for the story, or if the Secretary would like to talk before it publishes, let me know. The plan is for it to run in tomorrow's paper.

Best,
Juliet

Juliet Eilperin
Senior National Affairs Correspondent
Washington Post
Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com
(O) 202-334-7774
(C) 202-302-3663
@eilperin

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From: Eilperin, Juliet
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@eilperin

To: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[interior_press@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Eilperin, Juliet
Sent: 2018-11-05T11:41:25-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T11:52:26-05:00
[rzdtemails2.pdf](#)

Dear All,

As you can see from these two different email exchanges, Secretary Zinke engaged in two different matters regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park. One discussion concerns his conversation with Idaho timber on parking, the second is about the disc golf activity the city planner is interested in settling up. This comes after the Secretary had pledged as part of his ethics agreement that when it came to the part, "For a period of one year after my resignation, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know this entity is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d)."

I'm planning on doing a blog post about this—I'm not sure whether this will be a short print story, given all the news happening today. But either way, I wanted to flag it for you in case you wanted to comment. Also, I have redacted both the Secretary's personal email and the combination to the gate so as to ensure they do not become public. If there is any other sensitive material in these documents that shouldn't become public, please let me know.

Best, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin
Senior National Affairs Correspondent
Washington Post
Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com
(O) 202-334-7774
(C) 202-302-3663
@eilperin

Angela Jacobs

From: Ryan Zinke [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 13, 2017 2:55 AM
To: David Taylor
Subject: Re: Peace Park

Dave. U and your friends are always welcome to use the park. Combo to gate is [REDACTED]. Trim as u wish. I would rather keep it to friends until a master plan is developed. I am working with the new owners of Idaho timber to accommodate parking on the north east side. Also the mounds to the north will likely be flattened in the fall. Z

On Thu, 8/10/17, David Taylor <dtaylor@cityofwhitefish.org> wrote:

Subject: Peace Park
To: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2017, 6:45 PM

Ryan,

Hope all is well over there in DC. Some friends and I are thinking about moving forward this fall with setting up a disc golf course at the Peace Park. Is it OK if we put up some temporary disc golf "holes" (posts with sheet metal "dingers" on top)? We also may need to thin and or/limb a few trees in the woods near where Murray Avenue comes in to implement 18 holes. With the temporary posts we can test it out and easily move them around depending on your plans for the park. Eventually we would like to solicit sponsors and buy real baskets and make tee boxes (may need some grant money as well) once we decide on a more permanent layout. The pro baskets cost about \$400 a hole, and it's probably another \$100 per tee box. The park is looking good. The pond has come down quite a bit this summer. We appreciate the opportunity to help you do improvements so it gets used more in the non-winter months. I look forward to hearing from you.

Dave

David Taylor,
AICP
Director of Planning
and Building
City of

Whitefish
418 East Second
Street
P.O. Box 158

Whitefish, MT
59937
406-863-2416

Angela Jacobs

From: Ryan Zinke [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2018 11:33 PM
To: David Taylor
Subject: RE: Hey

Only fake news would make a mountain out of a sledding hill for kids. As usual, the park is just trying to help whitefish on what appears to be a good project. I resigned right after i became secretary and lola is now president. Do right and fear no man. Z

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: David Taylor <dtaylor@cityofwhitefish.org>
Date: 06/21/2018 14:57 (GMT-08:00)
To: Ryan Zinke [REDACTED]
Subject: Hey

Ryan,

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Dave

David Taylor, AICP

Director of Planning and Building

City of Whitefish

418 East Second Street

P.O. Box 158

Whitefish, MT 59937

406-863-2416

To: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov[interior_press@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Eilperin, Juliet
Sent: 2018-11-05T11:41:25-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T11:42:02-05:00
[rzdtemails2.pdf](#)

Dear All,

As you can see from these two different email exchanges, Secretary Zinke engaged in two different matters regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park. One discussion concerns his conversation with Idaho timber on parking, the second is about the disc golf activity the city planner is interested in settling up. This comes after the Secretary had pledged as part of his ethics agreement that when it came to the part, "For a period of one year after my resignation, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know this entity is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d)."

I'm planning on doing a blog post about this—I'm not sure whether this will be a short print story, given all the news happening today. But either way, I wanted to flag it for you in case you wanted to comment. Also, I have redacted both the Secretary's personal email and the combination to the gate so as to ensure they do not become public. If there is any other sensitive material in these documents that shouldn't become public, please let me know.

Best, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin
Senior National Affairs Correspondent
Washington Post
Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com
(O) 202-334-7774
(C) 202-302-3663
@eilperin

Angela Jacobs

From: Ryan Zinke [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 13, 2017 2:55 AM
To: David Taylor
Subject: Re: Peace Park

Dave. U and your friends are always welcome to use the park. Combo to gate is [REDACTED]. Trim as u wish. I would rather keep it to friends until a master plan is developed. I am working with the new owners of Idaho timber to accommodate parking on the north east side. Also the mounds to the north will likely be flattened in the fall. Z

On Thu, 8/10/17, David Taylor <dtaylor@cityofwhitefish.org> wrote:

Subject: Peace Park
To: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2017, 6:45 PM

Ryan,

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Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2018 11:33 PM
To: David Taylor
Subject: RE: Hey

Only fake news would make a mountain out of a sledding hill for kids. As usual, the park is just trying to help whitefish on what appears to be a good project. I resigned right after i became secretary and lola is now president. Do right and fear no man. Z

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: David Taylor <dtaylor@cityofwhitefish.org>
Date: 06/21/2018 14:57 (GMT-08:00)
To: Ryan Zinke [REDACTED]
Subject: Hey

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Importance: Normal
Subject: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T11:42:04-05:00
[rzdtemails2.pdf](#)

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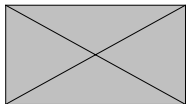
To: Ryan, Stephen[sryan@mwe.com]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2018-11-05T11:50:11-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T11:57:57-05:00
[rzdtemails2.pdf](#)

FYI - Not something I can weigh in on as a DOI spox. I believe she has the ethics agreement mistaken with the board resignation, though.

-

Heather Swift
Senior Advisor to the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
[@DOIPressSec](#) | [@SecretaryZinke](#) | [@Interior](#)
[Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov](#) | [Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov](#)

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: 'Eilperin, Juliet' via Interior Press <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Mon, Nov 5, 2018 at 11:41 AM
Subject: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
To: "Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov" <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>, Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>

Dear All,

As you can see from these two different email exchanges, Secretary Zinke engaged in two different matters regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park. One discussion concerns his conversation with Idaho timber on parking, the second is about the disc golf activity the city planner is interested in settling up. This comes after the Secretary had pledged as part of his ethics agreement that when it came to the part, "For a period of one year after my resignation, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know this entity is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d)."

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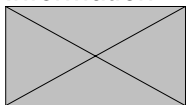
To: Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2018-11-05T13:02:45-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T13:03:32-05:00

Please refer questions to Mr. Ryan.

-

Heather Swift
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U.S. Department of the Interior
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To: Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Eilperin, Juliet
Sent: 2018-11-05T13:06:40-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T13:06:53-05:00

Thanks, I was just emailing him now. Just to confirm, this is the right Mr. Ryan, right? My colleague, who has contacted him in the past, is traveling with the president today.

<https://www.mwe.com/en/team/r/ryan-stephen-m>

And just one question that you might be able to answer: if Secretary Zinke got authorization to participate in advance of writing back Dave Taylor, then it would not be a violation of the pledge. Do you know whether he got authorization from department lawyers before responding to this inquiry, and before engaging in discussions about the parking lot?

Thanks, Juliet

From: Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2018 1:03 PM
To: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>
Subject: Re: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

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To: Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Eilperin, Juliet
Sent: 2018-11-05T13:06:40-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T13:07:05-05:00

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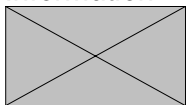
To: Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]
From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2018-11-05T13:08:40-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T13:09:26-05:00

Yes, that is the correct Mr. Ryan.

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From: Eilperin, Juliet
Sent: 2018-11-05T13:14:10-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T13:14:17-05:00

Thanks very much, I've emailed him.

From: Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2018 1:09 PM
To: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year

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From: Swift, Heather
Sent: 2018-11-05T15:47:12-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T15:47:59-05:00

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Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year
Received: 2018-11-05T15:51:48-05:00

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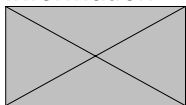
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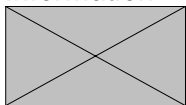
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<https://www.mwe.com/en/team/r/ryan-stephen-m> [mwe.com]

And just one question that you might be able to answer: if Secretary Zinke got authorization to participate in advance of writing back Dave Taylor, then it would not be a violation of the pledge. Do you know whether he got authorization from department lawyers before responding to this inquiry, and before engaging in discussions about the parking lot?

Thanks, Juliet

From: Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2018 1:03 PM
To: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>
Subject: Re: a question related the Secretary's correspondence regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park last year

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Please refer questions to Mr. Ryan.

-

Heather Swift

Senior Advisor to the Secretary

U.S. Department of the Interior

[@DOIPressSec](#) [[twitter.com](#)] | [@SecretaryZinke](#) [[twitter.com](#)] | [@Interior](#) [[twitter.com](#)]

Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

[nps.gov]

On Mon, Nov 5, 2018 at 11:41 AM, 'Eilperin, Juliet' via Interior Press
<interior_press@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Dear All,

As you can see from these two different email exchanges, Secretary Zinke engaged in two different matters regarding the Great Northern Veterans Peace Park. One discussion concerns his conversation with Idaho timber on parking, the second is about the disc golf activity the city planner is interested in settling up. This comes after the Secretary had pledged as part of his ethics agreement that when it came to the part, "For a period of one year after my resignation, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know this entity is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d)."

I'm planning on doing a blog post about this—I'm not sure whether this will be a short print story, given all the news happening today. But either way, I wanted to flag it for you in case you wanted to comment. Also, I have redacted both the Secretary's personal email and the combination to the gate so as to ensure they do not become public. If there is any other sensitive material in these documents that shouldn't become public, please let me know.

Best, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) 202-302-3663

@eilperin

To: 'Swift, Heather'[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Rein, Lisa
Sent: 2018-11-13T20:49:40-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Hi Heather
Received: 2018-11-13T20:50:03-05:00

I know it's a crazy time with the wildfires. Have a question. I've been told that the secretary had indicated an interest in building a microbrewery on the 95 Karrow site above the shared parking area for the Peace Park and the development. Is this something he is still considering at some point? Many thanks. Lisa

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

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From: Rein, Lisa
Sent: 2018-11-13T20:49:40-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Hi Heather
Received: 2018-11-13T20:49:52-05:00

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To: Rein, Lisa[Lisa.Rein@washpost.com]
From: Heather Swift
Sent: 2018-11-13T20:59:27-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Hi Heather
Received: 2018-11-13T20:59:28-05:00

Background: That is not accurate. Public records and local media coverage show his proposal was for land he owns.

Heather Swift
US Department of the Interior

On Nov 13, 2018, at 7:49 PM, Rein, Lisa <Lisa.Rein@washpost.com> wrote:

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From: Rein, Lisa
Sent: 2018-11-13T21:01:15-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Hi Heather
Received: 2018-11-13T21:01:22-05:00

Right. He had a formal proposal for the land he owns in 2012. I'm talking about what he was contemplating informally.

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Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Hi Heather

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From: Heather Swift
Sent: 2018-11-13T21:03:16-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Hi Heather
Received: 2018-11-13T21:03:17-05:00

You're talking about rumors.

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Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Hi Heather
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From: Rein, Lisa
Sent: 2018-11-20T18:31:14-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Corrections a plenty.
Received: 2018-11-20T18:31:57-05:00

Hi Heather,

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On No. 1—Will tweak.

On No 2—The Peace Park certainly has a view of the lake. 95 Karrow is lower of course but the lake is visible.

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They established the Great Northern Veterans Park Foundation to oversee what they predicted would be a community gathering spot, **but it remains undeveloped.**

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From: Heather swift
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Subject: Re: Corrections a plenty.
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From: Rein, Lisa
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heather_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Rein, Lisa
Sent: 2018-11-20T18:54:26-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Corrections a plenty.
Received: 2018-11-20T18:54:50-05:00

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From: Heather swift
Sent: 2018-11-20T18:58:15-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Corrections a plenty.
Received: 2018-11-20T18:58:30-05:00

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From: Rein, Lisa
Sent: 2018-11-20T19:02:28-05:00
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Subject: RE: Corrections a plenty.
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From: Heather swift
Sent: 2018-11-20T19:05:19-05:00
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Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Corrections a plenty.
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From: Eilperin, Juliet
Sent: 2018-11-20T19:17:19-05:00
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Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Corrections a plenty.
Received: 2018-11-20T19:17:38-05:00

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From: Center for Western Priorities
Sent: 2018-11-30T12:50:36-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] STATEMENT regarding Zinke's bizarre response to calls for his resignation
Received: 2018-11-30T15:20:21-05:00

[REDACTED]

Aaron Weiss, Media Director
Center for Western Priorities
aaron@westernpriorities.org
720-279-0019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 30, 2018

STATEMENT regarding Zinke's bizarre response to calls for his resignation

DENVER—In response to [Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's tweet](#) attacking Representative Raúl Grijalva, the ranking member and likely chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, the Center for Western Priorities released the following statement from **Executive Director Jennifer Rokala**:

"Even by Secretary Zinke's standards, this is a new low. It's unbecoming of a cabinet secretary. It's also foolish to pick a fight with a member of Congress who will soon have oversight and subpoena power over your agency. We, and the American people, look forward to full investigations into Secretary Zinke's unprecedented and ongoing ethical lapses."

Secretary Zinke is [facing at least five open investigations](#) into his conduct, the most serious of which involves a land deal with the chairman of Halliburton. After meeting with the developer and Halliburton Chairman David Lesar in the secretary's office, [the group went to the Biergarten Haus](#) in Washington, DC to discuss Zinke's long-standing dream of opening a brewpub in Zinke's hometown of Whitefish.

Zinke's investigation count, totaling [eighteen open and closed investigations](#), now far exceeds his last four predecessors, who collectively were the subject of eleven Office of Inspector General and the Office of Special Counsel investigations.

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The Center for Western Priorities is a conservation policy and advocacy organization focused on land and energy issues across the American West.

[Center for Western Priorities](#) | 820 16th Street Ste 450, Denver, CO 80202 | 303.974.7761

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [view email in browser](#)

To: heather_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Center for Western Priorities
Sent: 2018-11-30T12:50:36-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: STATEMENT regarding Zinke's bizarre response to calls for his resignation
Received: 2018-11-30T13:46:47-05:00

[REDACTED]

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From: Center for Western Priorities
Sent: 2018-12-15T09:40:58-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: STATEMENT: Ryan Zinke to resign as Interior Secretary, leaving behind a legacy of corruption
Received: 2018-12-15T09:41:07-05:00

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STATEMENT: Ryan Zinke to resign as Interior Secretary, leaving behind a legacy of corruption

Secretary Zinke attacked America's public lands every step of the way

DENVER—After serving nearly two years as Interior Secretary, President Trump announced that Ryan Zinke is resigning at the end of the year. Zinke has attracted unprecedented scrutiny from government investigators, accumulating at least 18 opened or requested investigations into his ethical conduct. One of these investigations has been referred to the Department of Justice.

The secretary's departure leaves behind a lamentable legacy defined by opening large swaths of public lands to oil and gas development, cutting out the public from decision-making, and eliminating large portions of two national monuments in Utah.

Deputy Interior Secretary David Bernhardt is expected to take over the Interior Department until a new secretary is confirmed by the Senate. In response to Ryan Zinke's resignation as Interior secretary, the Center for Western Priorities released the following statement from **Executive Director Jennifer Rokala**:

"Ryan Zinke will go down as the most anti-conservation Interior secretary in our nation's history. By following President Trump's marching orders to attack our public lands, Secretary Zinke oversaw an unprecedented and likely illegal attack on America's national monuments.

"Surrounding himself with former lobbyists, it quickly became clear that Ryan Zinke was a pawn for the oil and gas industry. We can expect more of the same from Acting Secretary David Bernhardt, but without the laughable Teddy Roosevelt comparisons."

During his tenure at the Interior Department, Zinke eliminated national monument protections from more than 2 million acres of public lands, opening the lands to mining and oil development. This action is still being challenged in federal court in Washington D.C.

Since President Trump took office, the Bureau of Land Management has offered up more than 13 million acres of public lands for oil and gas drilling as part of Zinke's 'energy dominance' agenda—an area nearly the size of West Virginia. Under Zinke's management, the Interior Department acted upon dozens of oil and mining industry wishes, including: lifting a moratorium on coal leasing, eliminating the BLM's methane waste rule, eliminating a rule to ensure taxpayers get a fair share for resources extracted on public lands, cutting out the public from providing input on land management decisions, and overhauling management plans for sage-grouse habitat.

Deputy Interior Secretary David Bernhardt's past lobbying client list includes more than a dozen companies that have regular business before the Interior Department, including Halliburton, Noble Energy, Cadiz Inc., and the Independent Petroleum Association trade group. Bernhardt also has a long track record lobbying for anti-wildlife clients and has repeatedly attempted to weaken endangered species protections.

Recently, Ryan Zinke tried to replace Interior's acting Inspector General shortly after she referred an investigation into Secretary Zinke to the Department of Justice. Known, open investigations into Ryan Zinke include:

- Zinke's decision to ignore the advice of career Interior Department experts and block two Connecticut tribes.
- Zinke's involvement in a land deal in Whitefish, Montana with the chairman of Halliburton

The Interior Department's Office of Inspector General already determined that Ryan Zinke could have avoided spending \$12,000 on a chartered flight to give a speech to a campaign donor, spent \$25,000 to send a security detail along on a two-week vacation, and falsely claimed his wife was an ombudsman for the department to avoid paying for her travel.

Learn More:

Analysis finds 18 government investigations into Zinke's actions at Interior — more than the last four secretaries combined [Westwise]

Inquiry into Ryan Zinke's land deal with Halliburton chairman escalates [New York Times]

Zinke seeks to explain meeting with Halliburton chairman [Politico]

[The Trump administration granted energy industry wishes at a breakneck pace](#) [Center for Western Priorities]

[Oil was central in decision to shrink Bears Ears National Monument, emails show](#) [New York Times]

[“The guy doing the dirty work” at Trump’s Interior Department is an ex-oil lobbyist](#) [Mother Jones]

[David Bernhardt’s conflict-of-interest list keeps getting longer](#) [Westwise]

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The Center for Western Priorities is a conservation policy and advocacy organization focused on land and energy issues across the American West.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 15, 2018

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